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Afghan Agricultural Research and Extension Development Program (AGRED)



Quarterly Report

October - December, 2012

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Afghan Agricultural Research & Extension Development Program (AGRED)

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Executive Summary

AGRED activities October to December 2012 were focused on reinforcing relationships with national, regional and provincial stakeholders. Specifically, emphasis this quarter has been on working closely with District Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (DAIL) Directors to introduce AGRED to DAIL staff and other provincial leaders and community members. AGRED Technical Working Groups (TWG) brought together the various stakeholders in each province to implement regular meetings.

This quarter the TWG meetings focused on organizing stakeholder workshops to bring together the many parties who will participate in the AGRED program. The workshops served as an opportunity to align work plans for each province and to identify the priorities for research and extension for 2013. The research and extension priorities identified in the workshops resulted in over 30 mini-proposals that will be presented to MAIL's Technical Working Group, which will incorporate them in a proposal to USAID for funding through on-budget mechanisms.

AGRED Trainers, the Washington State University (WSU) Consortium, traveled to Kabul to meet with key program stakeholders to develop the 2013 Training Plan.

A significant accomplishment of the quarter was the revised AGRED Performance Management Plan (PMP) and work plan. The revised PMP serves to outline the roles and responsibilities of the AGRED program under joint implementation. Once USAID approval has been extended, the AGRED team will implement a baseline survey to finalize program targets. Starting in the coming quarter, AGRED quarterly reports will include target indicators.

The AGRED Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) continues to be a challenge. As of the close of the second quarter the MOU had not been approved and was being re-circulated after translation at the request of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



Stakeholder Workshop in Balkh Province

Program Overview

The Afghan Agricultural Research and Extension Development Program (AGRED), funded by USAID in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL), is a five-year program designed to increase agricultural productivity and incomes in Afghanistan through the application of science and technology.

AGRED programs will include farmers in prioritizing research and extension activities, and facilitate farmers' access to research and extension services. They will strengthen the technical skills of research and extension professionals through formal and on-the-job trainings, and assist them in identifying, assessing and deploying improved technologies and farming practices. The four components of AGRED are:

1. **Research and Extension** - Applied research and provision of extension and advisory services.
2. **Training** - Training and capacity building of research and extension staff to deliver services to Afghan communities.
3. **Communication** - More effective communication with and increased access to improved technologies, knowledge and education with emphasis on agriculture best practices by Afghan farmers.
4. **Infrastructure** - Improved applied research and extension infrastructure in 7 target sub-national Research Centers and fifty target districts.

Specific AGRED program activities will be implemented using the following methods and mechanisms:

- Technical training for researchers and Extension Officers
- Management training for research and extension managers
- Refurbishing infrastructure on selected research centers
- Bundling extension information and improved technologies in "Tech-Packs"
- Competitive research funding
- USAID Implementation Letters



Extension Farm in Paktya Province

Progress Made During the Quarter

I. Coordination with MAIL

This section is included to ensure that USAID is kept abreast of the developments, challenges and lessons learned through joint program implementation.

AGRED Memorandum of Understanding

In the first quarter, ROP drafted an MOU to define the responsibilities of MAIL, USAID and Roots of Peace in the implementation of the AGRED project.

The process of establishing MOUs with the MAIL is more difficult than in previous years. Now the Ministry of Foreign Affairs must approve MOUs before the MAIL can sign them. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs requested that the MOU be submitted in both Dari and Pashto.

USAID then reviews the translated documents, with approvals sent to Mr. Habibi, who will review, approve and send them to the Chief of Staff at the Ministry, who will review, approve and send them to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs again. Finally, Minister Rahimi will sign the MOU. As of the end of the second quarter, the MOU had been translated into Dari and Pashto and had been submitted to USAID.

Until this lengthy process is complete, MAIL cannot officially introduce AGRED's 30 Regional and Provincial Coordinators to their DAIL counterparts or require the DAIL field staff cooperate with AGRED. Nevertheless, DAIL Directors introduced AGRED at the Stakeholder Workshops held in the seven target provinces. Subsequently, AGRED Regional and Provincial Coordinators met with DAIL Directors and Extension and Research managers to explain AGRED's plans for their provinces. While AGRED and MAIL continue to follow-up with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, they continue collaborating at provincial levels, as described below.

Further delay was caused when MAIL Minister Rahimi indicated that he was not informed about the efforts and progress toward establishing an MOU between MAIL and USAID concerning the AGRED project.

Creating an AGRED Project Advisory Board

AGRED has encouraged USAID to meet with MAIL's senior management, and to establish the AGRED Project Advisory Board. This Advisory Board will serve to clarify the roles of the AGRED program and refine the MAIL's expectations of AGRED, including: 1) the Implementation Letter process, including Conditions Precedent; and 2) the kinds of activities that can be funded by USAID under the Implementation Letters.

The establishment of an AGRED Project Advisory Board and meetings with senior MAIL managers is urgently needed. Until these expectations are clarified, AGRED expects that its ability to conduct joint activities with MAIL will remain uncertain.

II. Research and Extension

Technical Working Group

AGRED began working with MAIL's Technical Working Group (TWG) in August 2012. This group is responsible for the technical content of a proposal to USAID for on-budget funding. The AGRED contract refers to the TWG as "applied research and extension core teams... responsible for the development of work plans, budget, M&E, and reporting requirements for all interventions financed by the 'on-budget' USG fund."

To date, AGRED has held numerous meetings with the TWG, which is composed of MAIL technical directors (e.g. Cereals, Horticulture, Livestock and Home Economics Departments) as well as the Capacity Building and Change Management (CBCMP) and the Planning and Policy Department. Some TWG members served as facilitators of the seven Regional Stakeholder Workshops (AKA "townhall meetings") to identify research and extension priority projects for 2013.

A subcommittee of the TWG, composed of approximately eight DAIL research and extension managers and representatives from CBCMP and AGRED, will define a plan to identify and prioritize the needs of farmers and agribusinesses. These needs, once identified, will provide the basis for MAIL's proposal for on-budget funding from USAID. The Technical Working Group has three major roles in the implementation of AGRED's initial activities:

1. Holding stakeholder workshops to identify priority research and extension needs;
2. Incorporating the workshop results into a work plan for research and extension, and a proposal to USAID for funding under Implementation Letters; and
3. Tracking the Implementation Letter approval and disbursement process.

This quarter, the activities of the TWG included the Stakeholder Workshops, incorporating the Workshops' results into plans for research and extension, and reviewing "mini-proposals" before they are incorporated into a proposal to USAID.

TWG meetings were held in November in each of the seven target provinces. In Kandahar the Governor hosted the TWG meeting. In Kandahar and Kunduz, TWG meeting objectives were to determine the research and extension priorities of farmers, agribusinesses and other stakeholders, share information about AGRED with government authorities, UN agencies, PRT, USAID funded projects, national and international organizations, and coordinate with their agricultural programs. Provincial Agricultural Technical Working Group (ATWG) meetings in other provinces were additional opportunities to update group members on AGRED's plans and the status of the mini-proposals resulting from the Workshops.

Women Participants in Technical Working Group

Four women from MAIL Extension, Research, Livestock and Home Economics Departments were appointed to the Technical Working Group. The women actively participated in the TWG to ensure that activities important to women are voiced and included in planning and project prioritization.

Stakeholder Workshops

Stakeholder Workshop participants (Table 1) included DAIL researchers, DAIL extension staff, farmers, traders, and representatives from agriculture universities and Home Economics. Women represented approximately 20% of workshop participants.

The purpose of the Workshops was to demonstrate a participatory, “bottom-up” planning procedure. Though organized by AGRED staff, DAIL Directors formally inaugurated the workshops in each province. Their direct involvement provided opportunities to demonstrate DAIL leadership and was an implicit endorsement by DAILs of the participatory planning process and Workshop results. What’s more, the workshops brought together many AGRED stakeholders to identify research and extension needs that MAIL can address in 2013. These research and extension needs will provide the basis for proposals to be submitted to USAID for “on-budget” funding through Implementation Letters, as described below.



Stakeholder Workshop in Nangarhar Province

Annex 3 provides a summary of the feedback received from the Stakeholder Workshops. Table No. 1 below shows the types of participants in the Stakeholder Workshops.

TABLE 1: PARTICIPANTS IN AGRED STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS

No.	Agency	No. Participants
1	DAIL staff	141
2	University representatives	14
3	Private companies	15
4	Women Affairs Departments	42
5	Agricultural cooperatives	45
6	NGOs	10
7	Lead farmers	45
8	Commerce Departments	7
9	AISA	5
10	Transportation Departments	3

11	USAID representatives	2
12	Provincial Councils	3
	Total	332

Women's Representation at Stakeholder Workshops

AGRED's Women Farmers Program identified fifty-three women representatives from Extension, Research and women farmers to participate in seven Stakeholder Workshops in Kabul, Nangarhar, Balkh, Paktya, Kandahar, Kunduz and Herat, providing insights into the needs of women farmers for technical assistance. The women participants were active in identifying and prioritizing extension and research projects for their provinces.

Mini-Proposal Preparation and Review by DAILs

USAID is prepared to provide "on-budget" funding for agricultural research and extension activities. USAID can issue Implementation Letters in response to MAIL proposals for research and extension programs that incorporate DAIL work plans, developed in consultation with farmers and agribusinesses.

AGRED Research and Extension Coordinators, together with their MAIL counterparts, summarized the findings of the Stakeholder Workshops and the priority projects identified. Priority projects were then developed into mini proposals. Table 2 lists selected mini-proposals developed in each of the target provinces.

TABLE 2: SELECTED MINI-PROPOSALS IN THE TARGET PROVINCES

No.	Province	Research	Extension
1	Kandahar	Cumin Cultivation by Seed	New Methods of Okra Cultivation
		Alternative Melon Fly Control Methods	New Methods of Corn Cultivation
		Identification of Well-adapted Improved Corn Variety Adaptation Trials	New Melon Cultivation Methods for Zabul and Helmand
			Cucumbers Grown under Plastic Tunnels in Dand, Daman and Arghandab districts of Kandahar province
2	Nangarhar	Tomato Variety Adaptation Trials Improve Wheat Varieties Adaptation Trials	New Rice Cultivation Methods
3	Kabul		Apple Nursery Establishment, Tomato and Potato Demonstrations
4	Kunduz	Potato Variety Adaptation Trials	Watermelon Variety Demonstrations Wheat Variety Demonstrations
5	Balkh	Fodder Beet Variety Adaptation Trials	Improved Fodder Beet Variety Demonstrations
		Improved Corn Variety Adaptation Trials	Demonstrations of Improved Corn Varieties
		Improved Wheat Variety Adaptation	Demonstrations of Improved Wheat

	Trials	Varieties
	Improved Tomato Variety Adaptation Trials	Demonstrations of Improved Tomato Varieties
6 Paktya	New Corn Variety Adaptation Trials	Demonstrations of New Improved Tomato Varieties
	New Potato Adaptation Trials	Demonstrations of Improved Wheat Varieties
7 Herat		Demonstrations of Improved Tomato Varieties

Coordination with GIRoA

Throughout the second quarter, AGRED coordinated with GIRoA agencies. Building relationships among stakeholders is essential for AGRED's success. At this early stage of the program the focus of coordination has been on clarifying AGRED's objectives and activities. The AGRED staff has met with MAIL and DAIL directors, managers of research, extension and livestock departments, as well as with the Ministry of Women's Affairs, Department of Home Economics, the provincial Directorates of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (DRRD), and Education and Economic directorates.

Ministry of Agriculture Visits Paktya Province

His Excellency Minister of Agriculture, the Agriculture Provincial Director and the Extension Director visited the Paktya DAIL, meeting with DAIL, CBCMP and AGRED staff. The AGRED team gave a brief update on its plans and progress the province. During the meeting the Minister listened to the challenges that DAIL is facing, discussed alternative solutions, and advised to take action as quickly as possible. The Minister also committed to sending 20 cooperative members on study tour outside Afghanistan.

AGRED Introductions to DAIL Directors

As of the close of the second quarter, AGRED has conducted introductory meetings with DAIL Directors and managers in all of the seven target provinces. The meetings covered AGRED project goals and objectives, target areas and beneficiaries, as well as the anticipated AGRED and DAIL roles and responsibilities at the provincial level. AGRED field staff agreed to brief DAIL directors on its work plans, training plans and establish a regular schedule of meetings to ensure that DAIL directors are updated on all program activities in their provinces. Each of the DAIL directors committed to cooperate throughout the program.

Introduction of AGRED Women Farmers Program

Throughout the second quarter, the AGRED Women Farmer Program Team met with DAIL Directors and research, extension, livestock and Home Economics departments. These meetings were held to introduce the AGRED program and discuss ways to integrate women into ongoing programs. The AGRED Woman Farmers Program includes the identification of women role models at the village level. With the assistance of DAIL staff, AGRED will identify women with strong potential for serving as role models for other women in their

villages. They will receive leadership training, opportunities to study agriculture, and will be directly involved in research and extension at local levels.



Women Participation in Stakeholder Workshop

These introductory meetings resulted in commitments from DAIL Directors to support the Women Farmers Program. In the next quarter, AGRED will work with DAIL staffs to identify Regional Extension Coordinators for the Women Farmers Program and identify women role models in villages.

Identifying Women to Work as Extension Coordinators

The AGRED Women Farmers Program met with the Ministry of Women's Affairs at the national and provincial levels to identify women who are qualified to work as AGRED Regional Extension Coordinators. Coordination with the MAIL Home Economics department and the Ministry of Women's Affairs resulted in applications from well-qualified women in Kunduz, Nangarhar and Balkh provinces. Recruitment and hiring will continue next quarter, when AGRED expects to fill all Extension Coordinator positions.

New AGRED offices at DAILs

During the quarter, AGRED established nine offices in Badakhshan, Takhar, Kunduz, Baghlan, Sar-i-Pul, Jawzjan, Kandahar, Kapisa and Samangan provinces. DAIL directors in the remaining provinces committed to providing rooms for AGRED offices.

Establishing offices at DAILs allows AGRED to maintain a daily presence in DAIL operations. Without the shared space in the offices, AGRED staff would be dependent upon

meetings with DAILs, emails or phone calls for regular project communications. Working in close proximity with DAILs facilitates communications, trust and effective working relationships, and an essential foundation for coordination.

III. Training

Coordination with WSU Consortium Trainers

During the second quarter, ROP subcontractor Washington State University and its Consortium with UC-Davis and Texas A&M universities, meet with AGRED, MAIL and other USAID and USDA programs in Kabul to develop AGRED's training plans. Consortium Trainers met with officials from MAIL and discussed the training programs in detail in order to make sure that contents of trainings are not duplicated, and that trainings align with the policies of MAIL. Additionally, trainers visited Kabul DAIL to view options for future training venues and to visit the demo plots at Badam Bagh Farm.

The 2013 Training Plan will be finalized next quarter.

Women Participants for AGRED Trainings

The AGRED Training and Gender Teams will work closely with the Ministry of Women's Affairs (MOWA) and its departments (DOWA) in each of the seven-targeted provinces to ensure that qualified women are identified for trainings. The assistance of DOWAs was particularly important in Kandahar, Paktya and Kunduz, where DAIL staffs do not include women qualified to participate in the upcoming trainings.

Stakeholder Workshops in Seven Provinces

Though discussed in detail above, the AGRED Training Department was heavily involved in the planning and execution of the Stakeholder Workshops this quarter. The AGRED Training department coordinated the logistics in each province and facilitated invitations for participants. The AGRED Training Department took the lead in inviting and ensuring the participation of appropriate stakeholders in the workshops.

Challenges with MAIL and DAIL Communications

Ineffective communications between MAIL and DAILs in some areas meant that AGRED staff had to hand deliver invitation letters. Until USAID and MAIL sign the AGRED MOU and AGRED launches its program to improve reporting and general communications between MAIL and DAILs, ROP expects to report directly to MAIL and DAILs on AGRED activities.



Identifying Research and Extension Projects in the Stakeholder Workshop

IV. Communications

At this stage, the AGRED Communications Program includes the distribution of program information, reporting and training materials. As program activities increase, the role of the Communications Program will expand to include frequent meetings and conferences between researchers and extension workers. It will also include assistance to MAIL to develop printed materials, radio broadcasts and other media to convey extension information to farmers, using on-budget funding.

Improving AGRED Reporting

The focus of the AGRED Communications Department this quarter was to develop a system for collecting and aggregating project information and compiling reports in a timely manner. It trained 12 AGRED field staff in report writing skills and reporting formats. The development of printed materials (brochures, fact sheets, etc.) was rescheduled to the third quarter.

AGRED Website

ROP is developing a website to host information on AGRED. It will be accessible by USAID, MAIL, donor projects and other stakeholders. The text will be extracted from program documents and organized into a logical layout, and adapted for a wider, non-technical audience. “Sanitized” versions of program reports, training materials and other program information will be posted to the site and updated regularly. ROP will work with MAIL to ensure that there is collaboration on the AGRED website, and tie-ins to existing MAIL web presence will be explored. The AGRED website will be available to the public early in Q3.

V. Infrastructure

Infrastructure Refurbishment

AGRED’s Infrastructure Development Program focuses initially on refurbishing Research Centers in target provinces. Next quarter, in a collaborative effort with MAIL, however, AGRED will conduct physical inventories of both DAIL Research Centers and extension offices, including buildings, equipment and formal training of technical staffs. The assessment will be completed next quarter, and will provide a basis for subsequent infrastructure development plans to be implemented by MAIL using on-budget funding.

VI. Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E)

A Revised AGRED PMP

A top priority for this quarter was completing the revised AGRED Performance Management Plan (PMP), which submitted to USAID on December 17. This quarterly report

does not include progress toward indicator targets and therefore should be considered as a draft version, as USAID has not yet approved the PMP.

The revised draft PMP will include the relationship of indicators for both AGRED and MAIL. Due to the collaborative nature of AGRED, and in order to measure the success of its programs and its primary partner, the indicator targets will depend on MAIL's ability to achieve benchmarks defined by USAID and the expansion of MAIL and DAIL research and extension services.

The five principles used in developing AGRED's PMP are described below:

1. **Project management and adaptability.** The purpose of monitoring and evaluation is not only to report on performance, but also to inform decision-making by USAID and AGRED managers. Managers will use M&E data and performance reports to identify successes, learn from failures, and adjust program strategies or change implementation tactics accordingly.
2. **Collaboration and Integration.** AGRED will integrate performance monitoring into day-to-day program activities. All of its technical personnel will be responsible for data collection and monitoring. AGRED will also work closely with the MAIL M&E Department, which will increasingly be involved in all aspects of data collection, analysis, storage and reporting.
3. **Systematic Approach.** AGRED's systematic approach to data quality assessment will ensure validity, reliability and timeliness, in order to enhance program reporting and management effectiveness.
4. **Results Framework.** The AGRED result framework complements and is consistent with USAID/Afghanistan's Assistance Objectives and the Office of Agriculture's results framework.
5. **Impact Measurements.** Progress toward indicator targets will be disaggregated to allow AGRED and USAID managers to measure programmatic impacts on rural women, key crops, and target districts.

Annex 2 summarizes AGRED's logical framework, including indicators, critical assumptions made, and pre-conditions required to achieve each indicator. If the pre-conditions are not fulfilled, AGRED will be unable to reach indicator targets.

The 13 proposed AGRED indicators (Annex 3) are consistent with the USAID Office of Agriculture's results framework. They may change over the life of the program, however, as it adapts to changing conditions. Each indicator is categorized as "with conditions," indicating that achieving its targets will depend on the MAIL, or "without conditions."

The indicators are based on a hierarchy in which the achievement of lower-order results (e.g. number of people trained) are required to achieve intermediate outcomes (e.g. improved systems) and the higher-order results (e.g. improved MAIL/DAIL skills), so AGRED's success depends on both lower-level results that it controls directly, and "with

conditions” results that it affects only indirectly, and are the primary responsibility of MAIL and DAILs

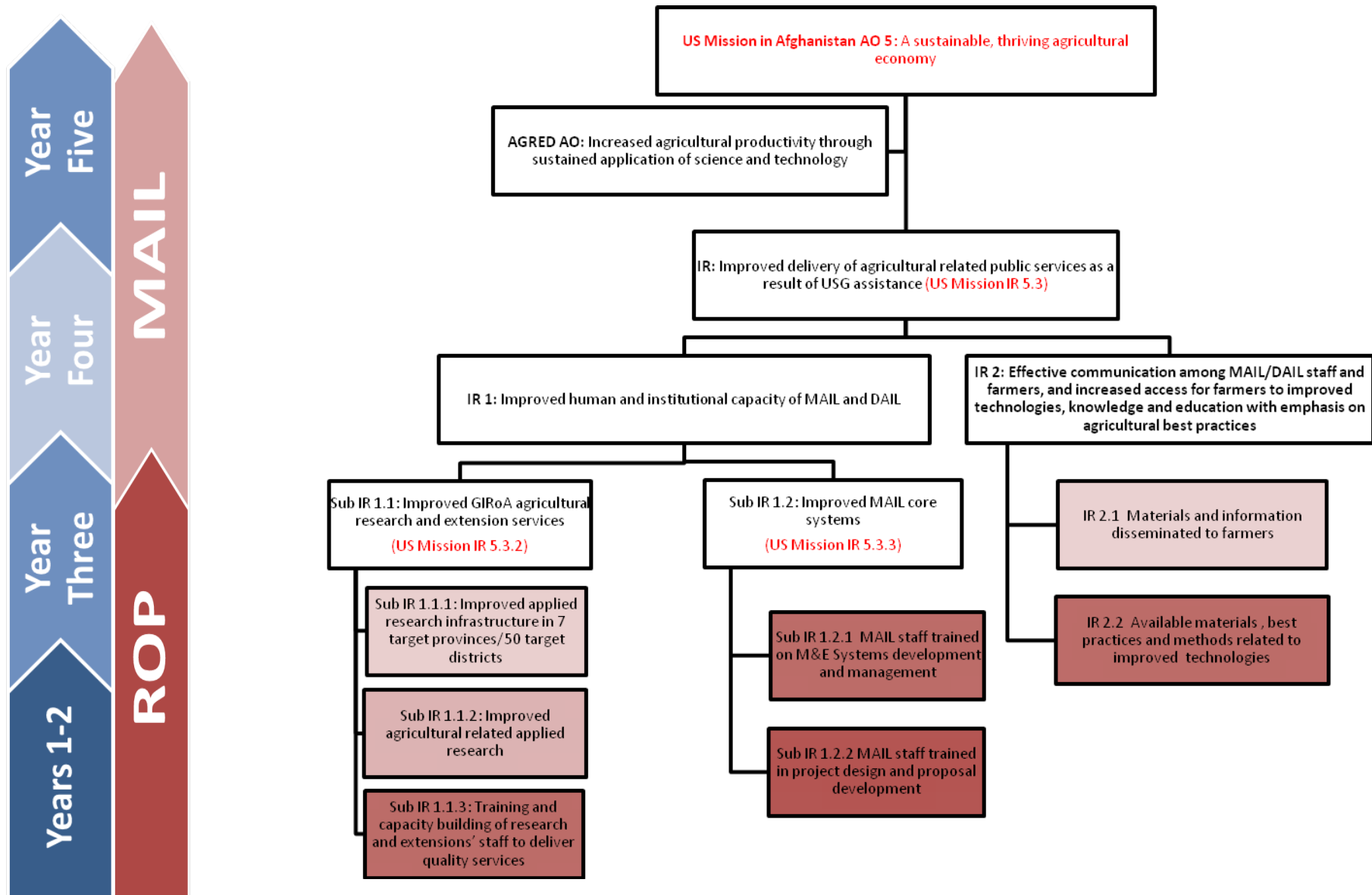
AGRED will attempt to ensure that MAIL achieves the indicators “with conditions,” document any failures to achieve them, and alert USAID if they are expected to occur. The AGRED PMP is a “living” document and will be updated periodically to reflect changing conditions that affect program activities and impacts, as well as any gaps that are identified over the course of program implementation.

As the participation of women in research and extension is a priority for AGRED, it has set separate targets for men and women for relevant indicators. AGRED integrates in the design and implementation of all project activities (i.e. gender mainstreaming), and will report on the following crosscutting gender indicator that USAID reports to USAID/Washington:

GNDR-2 Proportion of female participants in USG-assisted programs designed to increase access to productive economic resources (assets, credit, income or employment)

As AGRED will disaggregate all information by male/female, it can easily report the proportion of female/male to USAID anytime as requested.

FIGURE 1: AGRED RESULTS FRAMEWORK



Baseline Research Center Inventory Assessment

During the reporting period the AGREED M&E Department drafted an Inventory Assessment survey instrument that will be used in the Research Centers and extension offices in target provinces. The inventory will help MAIL to assess the needs of Research Centers and extension offices, and to develop a plan for using on-budget funding from USAID. Potential needs may include equipment, machinery and tools needed to support agricultural, horticultural, livestock, forage, forestry, plant protection, soil science and mechanized research. These inventories will also include the formal training of research and extension staffs and indicators of farmers', access to research and extension information. Survey results will provide a baseline and point of comparison for the skills inventories conducted by university consortium trainers during the course of the AGREED training program.

AGRED staff will begin conducting these inventories in January.

Activities Planned for January to March 2013

Research and Extension:

AGRED Research and Extension Coordinators at the regional and provincial level continue meeting with district officials, village leaders and farmers, including both men and women, to discuss AGREED's goals, objectives, plans and achievements. These meetings are essential for building a foundation of relationships that will serve as the basis for future collaboration. See specifics on training below.

The AGREED Women Farmers Program Director will draft a Gender Equality Policy for the Program. The Gender Equality Policy will be an integral part of AGREED organizational policies and programs. It involves building a culture that understands gender issues and respects diversity. The goal of AGREED's Gender Equality Policy is to achieve an equitable environment for women and men within AGREED, its partner organizations and communities.

AGRED will present its work plan for the Women Farmers Program activities to MAIL and will participate in a USAID panel discussion for implementing partners.

Training

The 2013 annual training plan will be drafted in the coming quarter. AGREED will attempt to coordinate training schedules with other USG programs and will submit the training plan to MAIL for review. Training topics will be informed by past assessments and ideas from the USAID report: Design and Implementation Plan for Agricultural Research and Extension Centers in Afghanistan. Training will include both formal courses in research and extension methods and on-the-job mentoring. The consortium's training plans include:

- January-March 2012 – Leadership Training, Principles of Research and Extension and Applied Research Method.

AGRED Research and Extension Coordinators, including Women Farmer Program staff, will receive technical and management trainings to support their efforts in supporting the needs of farmers and the government officials serving them.

The AGRED Training Department will support the implementation of the Inventory Assessments through trainings on how to measure the success of AGRED and DAIL counterparts in managing research and extension, including M&E to track program outputs and impacts.

Communication

In the coming quarter, AGRED will develop a formal Communications Plan. Meetings with USAID are scheduled to outline a tactic for improving reporting and to establish a roster of all stakeholders who are to receive program information. However, the AGRED Communications Plan will go beyond improved reporting to include a schedule of regular meetings at the national, regional and provincial levels, collaboration with the departments responsible for communications at the MAIL, creating an information management system to capture and disseminate information from trainings, and leveraging the AGRED website to provide information to both technical and non-technical readers.

Next quarter the AGRED Communications Department will coordinate with MAIL to ensure an appropriate flow of program information, as well as to ensure that information about AGRED, provided in documents and the website, is consistent with MAIL priorities. AGRED sees this as an opportunity for collaboration and MAIL buy-in to AGRED's communications strategy.

Infrastructure:

AGRED will analyze the results of the inventories conducted at DAIL Research Centers and extension offices. They will provide the basis of subsequent infrastructure development plans to be implemented by MAIL using on-budget funding from USAID. It is important to note that the objective of the infrastructure program is to facilitate research, and not to construct new buildings unless they are essential to priority research activities.

M&E:

The AGRED M&E Department will work with USAID to finalize the AGRED PMP. Once the PMP is approved, AGRED will implement a baseline farm survey, focusing on the performance indicators in the PMP.

Additionally, AGRED M&E will focus on developing and implementing monitoring tools and guidelines for the AGRED training program.

USAID-Approved Success Stories

AGRED does not have a Success Story to submit at this time. Due to the collaborative nature of the AGRED program, Roots of Peace will work with MAIL identify specific topics appropriate for Success Stories.

ROP will also explore ways to capture the narrative successes of AGRED that may not be appropriate as USAID-approved Success Stories, but serve to convey qualitative impacts of program accomplishments. These “mini-success stories” could be included in the AGRED website or serve as material examples to be included in printed materials and presentations

Annexes

Annex 1: Target Provinces

#	Province*	Priority Districts
1	Kabul	Shakar Dara, Char Asyab
2	Bamyan	Bamyan
3	Ghazni	Ghazni Center, Khoja Omari, Jaghori
4	Kapisa	Khohistan 2 nd
5	Parwan	Charikar, Sayed Khil
6	Wardak	Maidan Shar
7	Nangarhar	Mohmand Dara, Kama, Sorkhrood, Rodat
8	Kunar	Narang, Khas Kunar
9	Laghman	Qargae
10	Paktya	Gardez, Ahmad Aba
11	Logar	Mohammad Agha
12	Kandahar	Dand, Daman, Arghandab
13	Helmand	Nadali, Garmsir
14	Uruzgan	Tirinkot
15	Zabul	Qalat, Shahjoy
16	Herat	Gozara, Pashton Zarghon
17	Badghis	Qadis
18	Balkh	Nahre Shahi, Dehdadi
19	Faryab	Khoja Sabzposh
20	Jawzjan	Aqcha
21	Samangan	Aybak
22	Sar-i-Pul	Sancharak
23	Kunduz	Kunduz Center, Khan Abad
24	Takhar	Taloqan
25	Baghlan	Markazi Baghlan
26	Badakhshan	Kishim

Annex 2: AGRED Logical Framework - Draft

Overall Goal (AO)	Verifiable Indicators	Sources of verification	Assumptions
Increased agricultural productivity through sustained application of science and technology	Percent change in production of key crops by the target farmers as compared to non-beneficiary farmers	Baseline, midline and endline sample surveys of farmers assisted by Agriculture Extension agents and non-beneficiary farmers conducted by: MAIL and ROP field staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Agriculture extension staff are supported by MAIL to conduct outreach and trainings -GIROA remains functional at the provincial and district levels -Environmental conditions are conducive to production, (e.g. no pests and drought) -Enabling environment is stable enough for farmers to access inputs and tend to their agriculture -Extension agents are imparting useful knowledge to farmers
Intermediate Result	Verifiable Indicators	Sources of verification	Assumptions
Improved delivery of agricultural related public services as a result of USG assistance	<p>Percent of farmers accessing extension services</p> <p>Percent of DAIL-assisted farmers adopting improved technologies and practices as a result of USG assistance</p> <p>Number of new technologies made available for transfer as a result of USG Assistance</p>	<p>MAIL extension records</p> <p>MAIL extension center records and follow-up surveys (impact assessment), baseline, midline, endline.</p> <p>-M&E form related to new technology dissemination to farmers (for AGRED trainers and communications campaign managers)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Agriculture extension staff are supported by MAIL to conduct outreach and trainings -GIROA remains functional at the provincial and district levels -Extension staff are incentivized to conduct outreach and training to farmers by MAIL - Appropriate knowledge and technology delivery mechanisms operational by DAIL -Functional MAIL/DAIL advisory systems in place <p>Same as above plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Extension agents teaching the same appropriate technologies to farmers as taught to them by AGRED <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Agriculture extension staff are supported by MAIL to conduct outreach and trainings -GIROA remains functional at the provincial and district levels -Extension staff are incentivized to conduct outreach

			and training to farmers by MAIL - Appropriate knowledge and technology delivery mechanisms operational by DAIL -Functional MAIL/DAIL advisory systems in place
	Verifiable Indicators	Sources of verification	Assumptions
Outcomes			
	-Percent of MAIL/DAIL staff trained who are competent in skills taught	AGRED pre- and post-tests (developed by M&E and implemented by technical staff)	-Signed MoU between AGRED and MAIL -MAIL/DAIL give access to AGRED for trainings -MAIL/DAIL staff actively participate in trainings
	Percent of competitive research awardees who produce quality research	AGRED database, project progress reports, MAIL	-Competitive research award program is functional and issues awards on an ongoing basis -Research advisory committee is active -AGRED has adequate managerial oversight of the RAC and awards process
	Funds received by MAIL through AGRED on-budget funding mechanism	MAIL, USAID financial records, AGRED database	-USAID issues implementation letters for on-budget funding -MAIL is incentivized to seek on-budget funding from USAID (explain further in PIRS) -GIROA institutions are functional at the national level
	Percent of AGRED benchmarks achieved required for USAID certification for direct provision of funds (on-budget) to MAIL	AGRED program reports	-USAID issues implementation letters for on-budget funding -MAIL is incentivized to seek on-budget funding from USAID (explain further in PIRS) -GIROA institutions are functional at the national level
	Percent increase in MAIL/DAIL organizational capacity areas targeted by AGRED as measured by the Organizational Capacity Assessment Tool (OCAT)	OCAT assessment at baseline, midline and endline	-Signed MoU between AGRED and MAIL -MAIL/DAIL give access to AGRED for trainings -MAIL/DAIL staff actively participate in trainings -MAIL/DAIL staff able and incentivized to apply new skills
Outputs	Percent of targeted farmers reached through public awareness campaigns	M&E KAP study for targeted farmers	-Public awareness campaigns are developed and disseminated with consensus between MAIL and AGRED -Public awareness campaigns are funded through on-budget mechanism
	Number of competitive research	Research Advisory	-Competitive Research Awards Program developed

	awards issued/provided to researchers	Committee records	and implemented with consensus between MAIL and AGRED -Research awards program funded through on-budget mechanism
	Number of MAIL/DAIL staff trained in job-related skills	Training forms, M&E records, pre- and post-tests	-Signed MoU between AGRED and MAIL -MAIL/DAIL give access to AGRED for trainings -MAIL/DAIL staff actively participate in trainings
	Number of national research centers and laboratories assisted through USG assistance	AGRED program forms, e.g. infrastructure reports, M&E reports, input forms	- Research centers/lab assistance projects determined and implemented with consensus between MAIL and AGRED -Research centers/lab assistance projects funded through on-budget mechanism

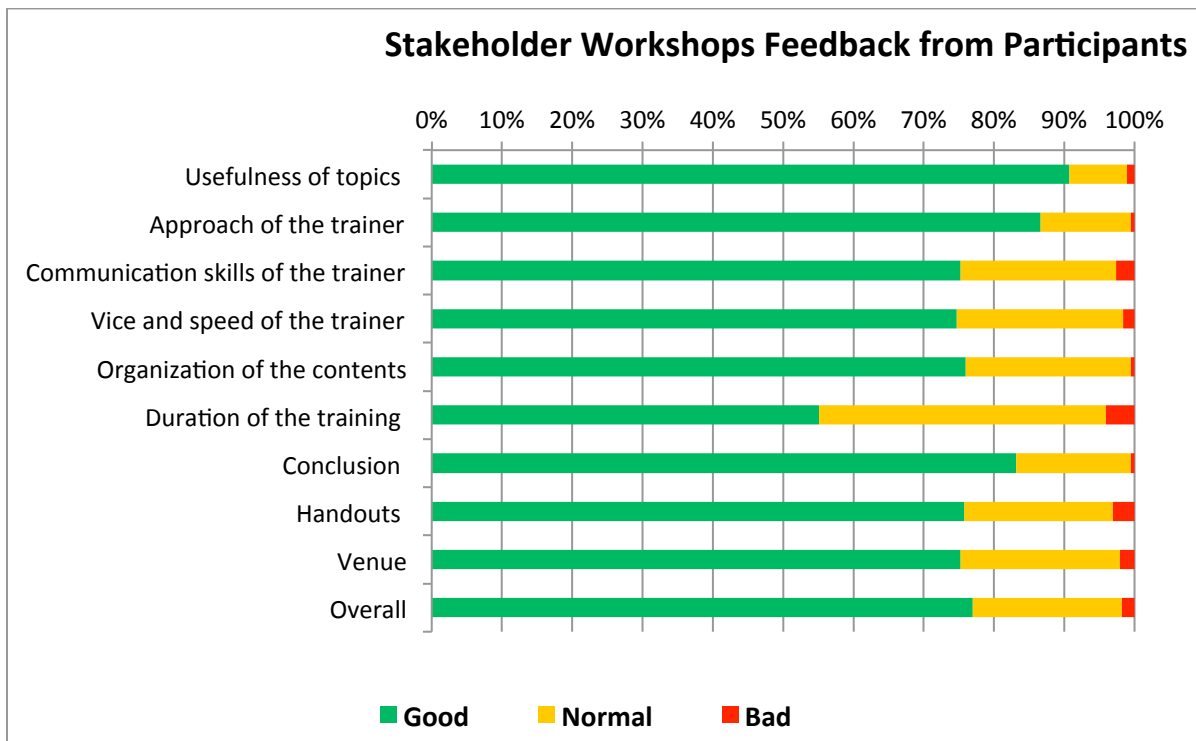
Annex 3: AGRED Performance Indicators – Draft

Indicator No.	Performance Indicators for Reporting to USAID	Baseline	Fiscal Year Targets					Notes
			2013	2014	2015	2016	2017 ¹	
1	% change in production of key crops by the target farmers as compared to non-beneficiary farmers	To be assessed (TBA) through farm-level survey	--	10%	--	15%	--	Cumulative target
2	-Percentage increase of Afghan farmers accessing extension services	TBA through farm-level survey	10%	20%	20%	20%	20%	Percentages show year on year increases.
3	-Percentage DAIL-assisted farmers adopting improved technologies and practices as a result of USG assistance	Panel survey of farmers assisted in each year	10%	20%	25%	30%	40%	Cumulative target
4	Number of new technologies made available (e.g. in tech-packs) for transfer as a result of USG Assistance	TBA through farm-level survey	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	To be set in conjunction with MAIL
5	% of MAIL/DAIL staff trained who are competent in skills taught	TBA through pre-tests	60%	60%	60%	60%	60%	Cumulative target
6	Percentage of competitive research awardees who produce quality research	0	--	50%	60%	70%	--	
7	Funds received by MAIL through AGRED on-budget funding mechanism	0	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	To be set in conjunction with MAIL and USAID
8	Percentage of AGRED benchmarks achieved required for	0	--	50%	60%	65%	70%	Cumulative target

¹ 2017 targets will measure October 1, 2016 – March 30, 2017 only, in order to assess and report performance by project close in July 2017

Indicator No.	Performance Indicators for Reporting to USAID	Baseline	Fiscal Year Targets					Notes
			2013	2014	2015	2016	2017 ¹	
	USAID certification for direct provision of funds (on-budget) to MAIL							
9	% increase in MAIL/DAIL organizational capacity areas targeted by AGRED as measured by the Organizational Capacity Assessment Tool (OCAT)	TBA through OCAT prior to assistance	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	To be set in conjunction with MAIL after baseline established
10	% of targeted farmers reached through public awareness campaigns	0	--	10%	15%	20%	25%	
11	Number of competitive research awards issued/provided to researchers	0	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	To be set in conjunction with MAIL after RAC established
12	Number of MAIL/DAIL staff trained in job-related skills	0	50	100	150	200		Cumulative target
13	Number of national research centers and laboratories and assisted through USG assistance	0	--	5	6	7	7	Cumulative target

Annex 3: Stakeholder Workshop Feedback



Acronyms

AAEP	USDA Afghan Agricultural Extension Program
AGRED	USAID Afghan Agriculture Research & Extension Development
ATWG	Agriculture Technical Working Group
CBCMP	USDA Capacity Building and Change Management Program
COP	Chief of Party
DAIL	Directorate of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock
DOWA	Directorate of Women's Affairs
GIRoA	Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
MAIL	Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MOWA	Ministry of Women's Affairs
MRRD	Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
DRRD	Directorate Rural Rehabilitation and Development
PMP	Performance Management Plan
ROP	Roots of Peace
TWG	Technical Working Group
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USG	United States Government
WSU	Washington State University